

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 10322-26036

Title: COMMUNICATIONS

Operation/Exercise Name: JTF-6 MISSION 257-94      Observed: 28 Feb 1994

Originator: DET, 3/11

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5. (U) OBSERVATION:

We had difficulties maintaining communications throughout the AO on Very High Frequency (VHF), High Frequency (HF) and Ultra High Frequency (UHF) (Sabre).

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

The AO was quite large, 20 miles by 25 miles, and had enough terrain features, washes, vegetation, and mountains, in it to make communications challenging. Numerous PROFIT studys and Line of Comms (LOC) masking studys were accomplished before the deployment, but the terrain was more challenging then realized. We were able to work through our difficulties, but that required considerable time and effort. We had the capability to establish a VHF retransmission site on a temporary basis, but didn't have the personnel to leave it in continuous operation. The UHF (Sabre) radios were temp loaned from JTF-6 and we didn't receive a repeater.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

With an AO of this size and character it is imperative to deploy with continuous retransmission/ repeater capability.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That units establish a permanent retransmission (VHF)/repeater (UHF) site in terrain of a similar nature.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

Although this retransmission site would increase personnel requirements and be a logistical problem for a company sized unit, it has significant advantages.

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